Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There seem to be some allegations that they are collecting high rates of assessment and all that.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are they not serious allegations?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—But this is a matter between the private owners.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Cannot the Government acquire the system?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—If funds are available, and if the matter is of far-reaching consequences, the Government might acquire.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Are not these bunds constructed on *poramboke*s?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The answer is given there. They are.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—So, how is it that the Government has no hold on the bunds constructed on *poramboke*s?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—They have been constructed with permission.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The answer to (3) is: "the Government levy water-cess only in the case of lands classified as *paramba*s in the settlement and subsequently converted into *nilom*s. The cess levied is Rs 5 per acre for single crop. An additional cess of Rs. 2-8-0 per acre is levied when a second crop is raised. It is understood that private anicut owners charge at rates ranging from 12½ *para*s to 25 *para*s of paddy per acre".

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Not always between 12½ and 25.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it not very hard on the part of the anicut owners?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That is a matter of opinion.

Private Irrigation Canals and Systems in Chittur.

92. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Will the Government be pleased to furnish the information required in question No. 5 (d) and (e) of the Budget Session of 1104 during the last 12 years?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(d) There were no written complaints.

(e) The question does not arise in view of answer to (d).

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—(5) (d). Were there any complaints to the Government by the people referred to in (c) (2) above about their difficulties on account of the private nature of these systems and what was the nature of the complaints". The answer is "There were no

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written complaints'. May I know whether there was any representation?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There was some representation to me some months back. I think last year some people came to me and told me that there were some hardships. I never reported that matter to the Government, but I thought of inquiring into the nature of the complaints when I had time to go to those places and no further action was taken. Some complaint was made to me.

Irrigation facilities.

93. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many petitions were received by the Government and the Chief Engineer in the last 2 years to afford irrigation facilities;

(b) of these what items of work by the end of last year (1) were completed;

(2) were not completed but undertaken;

(3) were sanctioned but not undertaken;

(4) were investigated but not sanctioned; and

(5) what items are pending investigation?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(a) To answer the question a very large number of files have to be gone through, and the Government do not think that the time and labour involved in collecting the information is commensurate with the purpose to be served.

(b) (1). A list showing the items of works completed by the P. W. D. is appended (*vide Appendix I*).

(2) Items 1, 10, 29 and 32 of the appendix.

(3) Repairs to the Vellichira and construction of sluice for Kuruthical chira.

(4) Opening of canal from Alapad to Chazhur, Amballur-Scheme (Konath River Scheme) Keelithodu Scheme and the Pallisseri and Marathakara diversions of the Karuvannur Scheme.

(5) Opening of an irrigation canal in Alur Village, opening of a canal east of Vettikadavu, Thanikudam Scheme and Chalakkudi Scheme.

Pay of the temporary staff in the Irrigation Department.

94. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether it was a fact that the Karkadagam pay of the temporary staff (maistries and watchmen) of the Irrigation Department, Chittur, was not disbursed as yet, 5th Kanni 1105

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